

EXHIBIT 6
DATE 02/22/07
#B 767

I grew up in Montana.

When I see someone carrying a lot of packages, I offer my help.

When I see someone slip and fall on a bit of icy sidewalk, I walk over and offer them a hand up.

If I was a doctor and a mother brought a little boy to me suffering from child onset asthma, gasping for breath, I would not hesitate to help him.

Likewise, if I see someone who is hungry I offer him or her food.

This legislation is approximately 122 words long. These 122 words seek to disallow any non-American citizen: Canadian, South African, English, Australian, and Mexican, Chinese etc from accessing any public assistance. Now, I looked it up. Public assistance is defined as government aid to the needy, aid consisting of money, food, food stamps, or other benefits given by government agencies to people on low incomes, dependent children, and others in financial distress.

Since when do Montanans walk away from someone earnestly in need of food, or shelter or any other necessity of life? I offer my help because growing up, I was taught that it demeans me to do otherwise. It is simply not in our nature as Montanans to ignore someone in desperation because they happen to belong to the wrong side of an imaginary line.

I am happy to lend a hand because I depend on the idea that when I am in need someone will be there to help me. That is what a society, a town, a state a country is made of. The trust among all who are present for self-preservation through the preservation of the whole of society. This goes back to the founding ideals of this great nation.

To borrow from the human rights framework, we as citizens of Montana do not even have the authority to deny anyone of these rights, even if we wanted to. It is simply an inalienable right as a human to be able to obtain health care, to live with heat in winter, be that person a citizen of our country, or not.

I do not believe that this law represents the constituency that is Montana. Please stop this bill here. Thank You.



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